AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Currently Amended) A conjugate which comprises an antigen-presenting cell (APC) targeting molecule coupled to an antigen, wherein said APC-targeting molecule is a mutated superantigen having one or more mutations only in its T cell binding site as compared to its wild-type counterpart and wherein the conjugate is capable of binding to a Class II MHC molecule ~~is effective in antigen presentation.~~

3. (Previously Presented) A conjugate according to claim 2 , wherein the mutation of the T-cell receptor binding site is a substitution, deletion or addition.

4. (Previously Presented) A conjugate according to claim 2, wherein the T-cell binding site of the antigen-presenting cell (APC) targeting molecule has been deleted.

5. (Previously Presented) A conjugate according to claim 2, wherein the antigen-presenting cell (APC) targeting molecule is a mutated superantigen of *Staphylococcus aureus* and/or *Streptococcus pyogenes.*

6. (Previously Presented) A conjugate according to claim 5, wherein the mutated superantigen is a SPE-C mutant.

7-9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) A conjugate according to claim 2, wherein the antigen-presenting- cell (APC) targeting molecule is coupled reversibly to [[an]] the antigen.

11. (Previously Presented) A conjugate according to claim 2, wherein the antigen is a protein, a polypeptide and/or a peptide.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Previously Presented) A conjugate according to claim 2, wherein the antigen is non-immunogenic when not coupled to the antigen-presenting cell (APC) targeting molecule.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Previously Presented) Pharmaceutical composition comprising a conjugate according to claim 2 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, adjuvant, excipient and/or solvent.

16. (Previously Presented) Vaccine comprising a conjugate according to claim 2.

17. (Withdrawn) Method of therapeutic or prophylactic treatment of a disorder which requires the induction or stimulation of the immune system, comprising the administration to a subject requiring such treatment of an immunomodulator according to claim 2.

18. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 17, wherein the disorder is selected from the group consisting of bacterial, viral, fungal or parasitic infection, autoimmunity, allergy and/or pre-neoplastic or neoplastic transformation.

19-20. (Cancelled)

21. (Withdrawn and Currently Amended) Method of preparing an ~~immunomodulator~~ immunomodulatory conjugate comprising the steps of:

(a) introducing a modification and/or a deletion into the T-cell binding site of an antigen-presenting cell (APC) targeting molecule which is ~~structurally~~ a superantigen, and

(b) coupling thereto and immunomodulatory antigen to produce a conjugate, wherein the conjugate is capable of binding to a Class II MHC molecule.

22. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 21, wherein the antigen-presenting cell (APC) targeting molecule is selected from the group of SPE-C, SMEZ and SEA.

23. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 21, wherein the antigen-presenting cell (APC) targeting molecule is SPE-C Y15A R181Q.

24. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 21, wherein the antigen-presenting cell (APC) targeting molecule is designated SPEC-Y15A.C27S.N79C.R181Q.

25. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 21, wherein the antigen-presenting cell (APC) targeting molecule is SPEC (-20-90).

26. (Withdrawn and Currently Amended) Method of increasing antigenicity of a compound, comprising [[the]] coupling of said compound to an antigen-presenting-cell (APC) targeting molecule to produce a conjugate, wherein said APC[[-]] targeting molecule ~~mimics a superantigen but does not include a fully functional T-cell receptor binding site~~ is a mutated superantigen having one or more mutations only in its T cell binding site as compared to its wild-type counterpart and the conjugate is capable of binding to a Class II MHC molecule.

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 26, wherein the T-cell receptor binding site, or at least a part thereof, of the antigen-presenting-cell (APC) targeting molecule has been modified by substitution or addition.

29. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 26, wherein the T-cell binding site of the antigen-presenting cell (APC) targeting molecule has been deleted.

30. (Withdrawn and Currently Amended) A method according to claim 26, wherein the antigen-presenting cell (APC) targeting molecule is ~~derived from~~ a mutated superantigen of *Staphylococcus aureus* and/or *Streptococcus pyogenes*.

31. (Withdrawn and Currently Amended) A method according to claim 30, wherein antigen-presenting cell (APC) targeting molecule is ~~derived from~~ a mutated SPE-C, SMEZ and/or SEA.

32. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 31, wherein the antigen-presenting cell (APC) targeting molecule is designated SPEC-Y15A as herein defined.

33. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 31, wherein the antigen-presenting cell (APC) targeting molecule is designated SPEC-Y15A R181Q.

34. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 31, wherein the antigen-presenting cell (APC) targeting molecule is designated SPEC-Y15A.C27S.N79C.R181Q

35. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 31, wherein the antigen-presenting cell (APC) targeting molecule is SPEC (-20-90).

36. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 26, wherein the antigen-presenting- cell (APC) targeting molecule is coupled reversibly to said compound.

37. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 26, wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of a protein, a polypeptide and/or a peptide, a carbohydrate or a nucleic acid.

38. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 26, wherein the compound is non-immunogenic when not coupled to the antigen-presenting cell (APC) targeting molecule.

39. (Cancelled)

40. (Withdrawn) The conjugate of claim 6, wherein the SPE-C mutant is SPEC-Y15A.

41. (Withdrawn) The conjugate of claim 6, wherein the SPE-C mutant is SPEC-Y15A.R181Q.

42. (Withdrawn) The conjugate of claim 6, wherein the SPE-C mutant is SPEC-Y15A.C27S.N79C.R181Q.

43. (Withdrawn) The conjugate of claim 6, wherein the SPE-C mutant is SPEC(-20-90).

44. (Withdrawn) The conjugate of claim 39, wherein the APC-targeting molecule is a mutated SPE-C, in which the amino acid residue Y15 is mutated.

45. (Withdrawn) The conjugate of claim 39, wherein the APC-targeting molecule is a mutated SPE-C, in which the amino acid residue R181 is mutated.